

## 9. WHAT IS THE LORD'S SUPPER?

---

On the night before Jesus was arrested and crucified, he ate the Passover meal with his disciples. This meal is what we now refer to as "The Last Supper." During the meal, Jesus instituted the ordinance of the Lord's Supper when he told his followers to "do this in remembrance of me" (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

We commemorate the death and sacrifice of Jesus Christ through the partaking of the Lord's Supper. While the ordinance is solemn, it is not a funeral! Instead, it is a celebration of the fact that death could not hold Jesus, a representation of our need to share in Christ's death just as we share in his life, and a reminder that he will return again.

Like baptism, it is a symbolic act. It is also an ordinance that should be taken only by those who are scripturally baptized believers. Just as baptism is the entrance sign into the local church, The Lord's Supper is the renewal sign of those who are committed to Christ and his people. As believers participate in The Lord's Supper, we remember Christ's sacrifice for us and we remember our proper response to him.

Only those who have repented of sin and trusted in Jesus Christ alone for salvation are to participate in the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper is a time of self-examination and self-reflection. Is there unconfessed sin in my life? Is there someone I need to reconcile with? All participants in the Lord's Supper are called to examine their spiritual lives before participating.